

Minutes of the ESH General Assembly
ESH 2018 Congress Venue, Fira Barcelona, Room B,
Barcelona, June 10, 2018

MODERATORS

K. Tsioufis, ESH President

E. Agabiti Rosei, ESH Immediate Past President

AGENDA	
1. OPENING OF THE MEETING, PRESIDENT'S WELCOME	K. Tsioufis
2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT	K. Tsioufis
3. TREASURER'S REPORT / THE ESH FOUNDATION	M. Bochud
4. ESH BY-LAWS UPDATE 2018	E. Lurbe/R. Kreutz
5. ESH 2022 BID WINNER ANNOUNCEMENT	Agabiti Rosei
6. ELECTION OF NEW NOMINATED ESH MEMBERS	R. Kreutz
7. BRIEF REPORT ON:	
a. ESH WORKING GROUPS	G. Parati
b. ESH SPECIALIST PROGRAMME	M. Azizi
c. ESH EXCELLENCE CENTRES PROGRAMME	B. Jelakovic
d. ESH SUMMER SCHOOLS	R. Cifková
8. CLOSURE	K. Tsioufis

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING, PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

The President of the ESH, K. Tsioufis, opened the Assembly meeting on Sunday, 10 June 2018 at 13:00, welcomed the delegates and thanked them all for their attendance.

Overall, about 80 ESH members attended the meeting.

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

K. Tsioufis highlighted in his introduction to his report ESH's major achievement in the last year. He pointed out that despite some difficulties the 2018 European Guidelines were successfully presented at this ESH 2018 Annual Meeting. K. Tsioufis thanked the two chairs G. Mancia and B. Williams and all the members of the Task Force members for their excellent contribution and efforts in preparing the Guideline publication.

K. Tsioufis informed the delegates of a new initiative to strengthen relationships between ESH and the National Societies. A series of individual meetings, 25 in total, with the Presidents of the National Societies have been organized each morning over the three days of the Annual Meeting.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

M. Burnier on behalf of M. Bochud, ESH Treasurer, presented the audited financial situation of the ESH and the Foundation of the ESH for the financial year at 31 December, 2017. No comments or objectives were raised from the audience.

4. ESH BY-LAWS UPDATE

R. Kreutz presented the updated ESH By-laws to the delegates. These replace the existing by-laws dated 2002. The update of the by-laws was initiated during the Council meeting in Glasgow at September 30, 2018, and the updated drafts have been generated over the past several months and were presented to the ESH Scientific Council during the meeting on Friday, 8 June 2018. This update was unanimously accepted by the Council. No objections were raised by the Council. A summary of this presentation is shown below.

ESH BY-LAWS UPDATE 2018: procedure

- Process started after Glasgow ESH council meeting on September 30, 2017
- Draft presented during ESH council meeting in Barcelona on February 3, 2018
- Final draft generated among committee members and in exchange with Swiss law firm Ornitag
- Final approval from Ornitag on May 30th
- Final approval of ESH Scientific Council June 8, 2018
- Approval from General Assembly requested on Sunday June 10, 13:00-13:30

The by-laws text was presented and some selected changes as compared to the previous version were highlighted.

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5. ESH BY-LAWS UPDATE 2018



BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I

European Society of Hypertension (ESH), Zug (CH)
The name of this organization shall be the European Society of Hypertension (ESH) and the abbreviation ESH is used in this document to refer to this organization. The ESH is a society according to art. 60 et seq. of the Swiss Civil Code. Its seat is in Zug, Switzerland.

ARTICLE II

Purpose
The objectives of the Society shall be to promote and encourage the advancement of scientific research and knowledge in hypertension and associated diseases. It shall also be to promote and encourage application of the knowledge to medical care in all aspects of hypertension and associated diseases. Specifically:

1. The ESH will encourage, promote, endorse or organize high quality international scientific activities and communications of the results. Such activities shall be carried out primarily by an annual European Meeting as well as through the organization, participation and co-organization of special scientific and educational meetings worldwide. They shall also be carried out by means of special publications. Research projects may be sponsored or conducted under the special circumstances appropriate to international scientific bodies.
2. The ESH will encourage, promote, endorse or organize activities involved with continuing medical education in the field of hypertension and associated diseases. This will be done also in conjunction with other scientific societies and members of health care professions.
3. The ESH will encourage, promote, endorse or organize, alone or in conjunction with other scientific societies and members of health delivery professions, postgraduate training and international exchange of investigators, teachers, fellows and students.
4. The ESH supports a Foundation (FESH) in order to achieve its purpose, especially but not limited to grant financial assistance for educational and research purposes. The ESH shall donate to FESH any surplus which are not necessary for achieving its purpose.
5. The duration of the ESH is undetermined.

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STATUTEN

ART. I

Name, Sitz
Unter dem Namen European Society of Hypertension (Europäischer Verein zur Förderung der wissenschaftlichen Forschung im Bereich des Bluthochdrucks), im folgende Text als ESH benannt, bestirnt mit Sitz in Zug, Schweiz, eing Verein gemäß Art. 60ff.ZGB.

ART. II

Zweck
Der Verein bezweckt die Förderung und Unterstützung der wissenschaftlichen Forschung und der Kenntnisse im Bereich Bluthochdruck und assoziierten Erkrankungen. Er soll auch die Umsetzung dieser Kenntnisse bei der medizinischen Betreuung von Patienten im Bereich Bluthochdruck und den damit assoziierten Erkrankungen fördern und unterstützen.

Insbesondere:

1. Der Verein fördert, unterstützt, begünstigt und organisiert anspruchsvolle internationale wissenschaftliche Tätigkeiten sowie die Bekanntgabe deren Ergebnisse. Solche Tätigkeiten finden in erster Linie im Rahmen einer jährlichen Europäischen Versammlung statt sowie durch die Teilnahme an und Mitorganisation von internationalen Tagungen weltweit. Diese Aktivitäten umfassen weiterhin Publikationen. Die finanzielle Unterstützung oder Durchführung von Forschungsprojekten soll gemäß den für internationale wissenschaftliche Organisationen geeigneten Bedingungen erfolgen.
2. Der Verein fördert, unterstützt, begünstigt und organisiert Tätigkeiten, welche mit der medizinischen Weiterbildung im Bereich Bluthochdruck und den damit verbundenen Erkrankungen in Verbindung stehen. Dies erfolgt in Zusammenarbeit mit anderen wissenschaftlichen Organisationen sowie mit Mitgliedern von medizinischen Berufen.
3. Allen oder in Zusammenarbeit mit anderen wissenschaftlichen Organisationen und Mitgliedern von medizinischen Berufen fördert, unterstützt, begünstigt und organisiert der Verein die Weiterbildung von Personen, welche den Bachelor-Abschluss besitzen, sowie internationale Austauschaufenthalte von Forschern, Lehrern, medizinischen Mitarbeitern, und Studierenden.
4. Der Verein unterstützt um seine Ziele zu verfolgen, eine Stiftung (FESH), welche insbesondere, aber nicht ausschließlich, finanzielle Unterstützung zur

abschluss fördert, sowie entsprechende Austauschaufenthalte von Forschern, Lehrern, medizinischen Mitarbeitern, und Studierenden.

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5. ESH BY-LAWS UPDATE 2018

ARTICLE III

Members

1. Membership in the ESH is open to physicians and any health care professionals worldwide who are dedicated to research in hypertension, or prevention and treatment (management) of hypertension and associated diseases.
2. Election of Members. Applicants are required to apply online at the website of the ESH and are requested to provide:
 - a) a short curriculum vitae (CV) in English (listing academic degrees and professional positions);
 - b) bibliography of publications related to hypertension and associated diseases;
 - c) letters of endorsement are not required. Approval of memberships are officially confirmed during the Annual Meeting of the ESH.
3. ESH members shall pay annual dues, in the amount determined by the ESH Scientific Council and approved by the General Assembly of the ESH. ESH members shall subscribe to the official Journal of the ESH.
4. **Emeritus ESH Members**
A long-standing member of ESH over the age of 65 and who has retired from active work may seek Emeritus status by applying to the ESH president in writing. Applications for Emeritus Membership will be approved by the ESH Scientific Council. Emeritus members may be exempted from annual dues but not from subscription costs to the official Journal of the ESH.
5. **Honorary ESH Member**
Individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to research in hypertension or who have given exceptionally important support to the activities of the ESH may be nominated as Honorary Members. Nominations will be considered by the Awards Committee which will bring recommendations to the Scientific Council. This distinction will be limited to a very select group of individuals, and normally no more than one honorary member will be nominated at any one Scientific Meeting. Honorary members will be exempted from annual dues but not from subscription costs to the official Journal of the ESH.
6. **Rights and Privileges of ESH members**
ESH members participate in the scientific and business sessions of the ESH and vote at the General Assembly during the Annual Meeting. ESH members shall be eligible for election to the ESH Scientific Council.
7. **Corporate membership**
Institutions or companies interested in the support of hypertension research or

- Penalties
Membership shall cease automatically upon failure to pay the annual dues for two consecutive years.

ARTICLE IV

ESH Scientific Council, Officers, Committees and Governing bodies.

1. **ESH Scientific Council**
The Scientific Council of the ESH is the executive organ of the ESH. The Scientific Council has the duty of supervising all affairs of the ESH. While membership in the ESH is open to applicants worldwide, only ESH members who are European residents are eligible to become a Scientific Council member.
2. **Composition of the ESH Scientific Council**
The ESH Scientific Council is formed by 11 elected members (including office bearers), by non-voting ex-officio members and by non-voting executive officers nominated by the Council for specific matters.
3. **Election of the ESH Scientific Council**
ESH Scientific Council members shall be elected as follows: at the time of the General Assembly during the Annual Meeting of the ESH, the Society shall vote on membership of the ESH Scientific Council for the succeeding four years, giving due consideration to the recommendations of the existing Scientific Council. Any six members of the Society may nominate a candidate by writing to the Secretary of the ESH Scientific Council not less than ninety days before the scheduled Annual Meeting of the ESH. Members of the Scientific Council may serve not more than two consecutive four-year terms.
4. **Ex-Officio Members**
Ex-Officio non-voting members of the Scientific ESH Council are:
 - a) one ESH member designated by the International Society of Hypertension;
 - b) one ESH member representing FESH;
 - c) one ESH member representing National Hypertension Societies;
 The ex-officio member shall serve for a two-year term with the option to renew the appointment for two more years.
5. **Office bearers**
Office bearers of the Society are: the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, the Treasurer and the Officer at Large. They are elected by the Society from the elected members of the ESH Scientific Council whose term is continuing for at least two further years. Office bearers are elected at the time of the General Assembly during the Annual Meeting, giving due consideration to the recommendations of the ESH Scientific Council. The President shall serve for a two-year term and shall subsequently remain in the ESH Scientific Council for two more years as immediate Past-President. The Vice-President shall normally serve for two years.



5. ESH BY-LAWS UPDATE 2018

6. Non-voting Executive Officers

The ESH Scientific Council may appoint executive officers with specific responsibilities in areas that are regarded by the ESH Scientific Council to require expert attention and decisions on a continuous basis. They can be selected from among ESH Scientific Council members, regular ESH members or non-members on account of experience and competence. Executive officers selected from regular ESH members or non-members will normally be invited by the ESH president to attend the ESH Scientific Council meeting or a portion of the meeting but may not vote or be elected to positions of office bearers. Areas to be considered for executive officer appointments are:

- a) Clinical Hypertension Specialist activities
- b) ESH excellence centres
- c) Coordination of Working Group activities
- d) ESH Summer Schools
- e) Educational/Research activities of the Society
- f) Liaison with other national hypertension societies and World Hypertension League

7. Awards Committee

This Committee will be chaired by the President of the Society (or a delegate nominated by him from among the Scientific Council members), the Secretary of the Society and at least 3 other members nominated by the Council. This Committee will review the availability and financial support of ESH awards for each year. The Committee will provide recommendations to the Scientific Council with regard to the selection of the individuals to be given the Awards and to the selection of honorary and emeritus members of the Society. The Award Committee will normally operate for a two-year term.

8. Duties of the ESH Scientific Council

- a) Of the elected members of the ESH Scientific Council six shall constitute a quorum.
- b) The ESH Scientific Council should normally meet at least twice a year. Meetings should be convened by the ESH President. Additional individuals may be invited by the President to participate at an ESH Scientific Council meeting. Any group of six Scientific Council members may request by letter the President to convene an extraordinary additional meeting of the ESH Scientific Council provided requests are motivated by valid reasons.
- c) The Secretary of the Society shall inform all ESH Council members of the Agenda of the ESH Scientific Council meeting at least 14 days before the meeting is held. Council members may request the President by letter to include additional items in the Agenda at least 30 days before the ESH Scientific Council meeting.

9. Governing bodies

The ESH shall encompass the following bodies: the General Assembly, the ESH Scientific Council, and one or more sections. The General Assembly shall be held at the time of the Annual Scientific Meeting of the Society. Only topics listed in the Agenda may be brought up for discussion or vote. Any individual member's request

to include items in the Agenda must be addressed to the President at least six weeks before the General Assembly is to meet.

ARTICLE V

Meetings

The Society will usually convene one General Scientific Meeting every year. At each General Scientific Meeting, a General Assembly shall take place.

Finances

The fiscal year of the Society shall be the calendar year.

Audit

On the recommendation of the ESH Scientific Council and with the approval of the General Assembly, the Society shall employ an accounting firm to prepare and distribute an annual review of the finances of the Society and to provide such other services as deemed necessary by the ESH Scientific Council, the President and the Treasurer.

ARTICLE VI

Cooperation

The Society shall seek to coordinate its activity with other similar societies in other parts of the world.

ARTICLE VII

Amendments to by-laws

Amendments to the by-laws of the ESH must be proposed in writing to the ESH Scientific Council by six or more members not less than ninety days before a General Assembly, the Agenda of which shall contain an announcement of the proposed amendment. Such amendments require for their adoption an affirmative vote of two-thirds of those present at the General Assembly. A postal vote may be held at the discretion of the ESH Scientific Council. The amendment shall become an active part of the by-laws immediately after the end of the General Scientific Meeting or after completion of the postal vote.

Council resolutions

Separately from the by-laws the ESH Scientific Council should maintain a schedule of formal Council resolutions that will help guide its processes. These will include resolutions in the following areas:

- 1. Guidelines for Conduct of Satellite
- 2. Arrangements for Annual Scientific Meeting
- 3. Arrangements for Visiting Faculty
- 4. Procedures for recording official ESH endorsement of Scientific Meeting in the field of Hypertension



ESH BY-LAWS UPDATE 2018
What is new - 1



• **Article II – Purpose**

- 4. The ESH supports a Foundation (FESH) in order to achieve its purpose, especially but not limited to grant financial assistance for educational and research purposes. The ESH shall donate to FESH any surplus which are not necessary for achieving its purpose.

• **Article III – Members**

- 1. Membership in the ESH is open to physicians and any health care professionals worldwide.
- 2. Election of Members. Applicants are required to apply online at the website of the ESH
 - c) letters of endorsement are not required.

7. Corporate membership

Institutions or companies interested in the support of hypertension research or management may become corporate members. Each corporate member has one vote at the General Assembly.

ESH BY-LAWS UPDATE 2018 What is new - 2



• Article IV – Scientific Council, Officers, Committees and Governing bodies

4. Ex-Officio Members

Ex-Officio non-voting members of the Scientific Council are:

- a) one ESH members designated by the International Society of Hypertension
- b) one ESH member representing FESH
- c) one ESH member representing National Hypertension Societies

7. Awards Committee

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5. ESH BY-LAWS UPDATE 2018

Approval from General Assembly
requested on Sunday June 10,
13:00-13:30



European
Society of
Hypertension

5. Agreements with the Publishers of Scientific Journals
6. Arrangements for elaboration of Guidelines on Hypertension by the Society alone or
in cooperation with other Societies and bodies.

Berlino, 10 June 2018

K. Tsioufis
ESH President

R. Kreutz
ESH Secretary



European
Society of
Hypertension

Following the presentation by R. Kreutz, the delegates voted unanimously to approve the ESH By-laws Update 2018.

5. ESH 2022 BID WINNER ANNOUNCEMENT

Prof. Agabiti Rosei reported how the selection of the City was carried out; this included a score sheet that was used during an independent evaluation of by the selection committee members. After careful review of the presentations from the three candidate cities, Athens, Hamburg and Stockholm and further deliberation by the Selection Committee, E. Agabiti Rosei announced that Athens had won the bid by fulfilling the majority number of criteria used for the selection.

6. ELECTION OF NOMINATED NEW ESH MEMBERS

R. Kreutz informed the delegates that 156 new members had nominated from 55 countries, 38 European and 17 non-European countries. The new members were invited to attend the Welcome to New Members meeting to be held immediately after the General Assembly to receive their membership certificate.

7. BRIEF REPORT ON

a. ESH WORKING GROUPS

G. Parati gave a brief overview on the ESH Working Groups. Currently there are 12 Working Groups and he confirmed the change of name of the Working Group on Hypertension, Thrombosis and Arrhythmias to Working Group on Hypertension and the Heart.

b. ESH SPECIALIST PROGRAMME

M. Azizi underlined the need for hypertension specialists and the need to promote hypertension to young physicians. The ESH has 1086 clinical hypertension specialists from 51 countries worldwide.

c. ESH EXCELLENCE CENTRES IN HYPERTENSION

B. Jelakovic informed the delegates that 4 new Excellence Centres were nominated during the Annual Meeting. He invited all ESH Excellence Centres to take part in the ESH BP Control Study.

d. ESH SUMMER SCHOOLS

R. Cifkova gave a brief overview of the ESH Summer Schools. The number of participants over the last 10 years has been stable, on an average between 50-70 physicians. Over the last few years many applications from non-European countries have been received. The 2018 Summer School will be held in Les Diablerets, Switzerland, 7-13 September, in Greece, near Athens in 2019 and in Serbia in 2020.

8. CLOSURE

K. Tsioufis thanked all the delegates who participated in the General Assembly meeting.

Athens and Berlin, June 18, 2018



Konstantinos Tsioufis
ESH President



Reinhold Kreutz
ESH Secretary